

# **USED LUBE OIL ANALYSIS & ANALYTICAL FERROGRAPHY**

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# Oil Analysis Provides Four Important Pieces of Information

## 1) Condition of Equipment Lubricated Components

(Bearings, gears, cylinders, & other lubricated components)

## 2) Condition of Lubricant -- Can we continue to use the lubricant with a high level of confidence?

## 3) Level of Contamination -- How contaminated is the lubricant? What is the contamination? Where did it come from? How can we prevent it from occurring again?

## 4) What do I do next?

# Condition of Lubricated Components

**Determined primarily by:**

**Spectroscopy for ionic and small metal particles**

**Direct Read Ferrography for mostly ferro-magnetic particles**

**-- or --**

**PQ Index for ferro-magnetic particles**

**ISO Particle Count for all particles according to size range.**

# **Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components**

## **Spectrographic Metals Analysis**

### **1: Atomic Emission Rotrode Spectrometer**

**Particle size limitation ~ 7  $\mu$ , depending on metal and level of surface oxidation**

**Accurate to about  $\pm 5\%$**

**No dilution of sample is required**

**Results include wear, additive, and contaminant metals in parts per million (ppm)**

# **Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components**

## **Spectrographic Analysis**

### **2: Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectrometer**

**Particle size limitation ~ 7  $\mu$ , depending on metal**

**Accurate to about  $\pm 1\%$**

**Dilution of sample is required**

**Results include wear, additive, and contaminant metals in parts per million (ppm)**

# Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components

Usually 18 to 22 wear, additive, and contaminant metals are detected

## Wear

Iron  
Copper  
Lead  
Tin  
Chromium  
Titanium  
Nickel  
Aluminum  
Silver  
Cadmium

## Additive






Zinc  
Phosphorus  
Magnesium  
Calcium  
Barium  
Molybdenum  
Antimony

## Contaminant

Boron  
Silicon  
Potassium  
Sodium  
Vanadium

# Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components

## Metals by Atomic Emission Spectroscopy

 Up			 Down			 Top			 Next 5			 Previous 5		
Sample Information			Wear Metals											
Sample No	Hrs/Miles	Samp Date	Iron	Coppe	Tin	Lead	Chrom	Nicke	Alumi	Titan	Silv			
5033004		2005-03-01	38	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
5023004		2005-02-01	24	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
5013004		2005-01-01	18	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
4123004		2004-12-01	16	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
4113004		2004-11-01	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
4103004		2004-10-01	12	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Watch Advisory			15	10	10	10	5	5	10	5	5			
Warning Advisory			30	20	20	20	10	10	20	10	10			
Reference			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			

Basic bearing, gear, and shaft wear metals are monitored and trended

# Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components

## Metals by Atomic Emission Spectroscopy

Additive Metals							Contaminant Metals				
Calci	Magne	Zinc	Phosp	Bariu	Molyb	Antim	Silic	Sodiu	Boron	Potas	Vanad
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	82	0	44	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	36	0	24	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	18	0	11	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	6	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	40	10	15	10
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	40	20	30	20
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Additive metals are monitored.**

**Contaminant metals will help indicate source of contamination**



# **Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components**

## **Direct Read Ferrography**

**Reported as Direct Read Small (DRS) & Direct Read Large (DRL)**

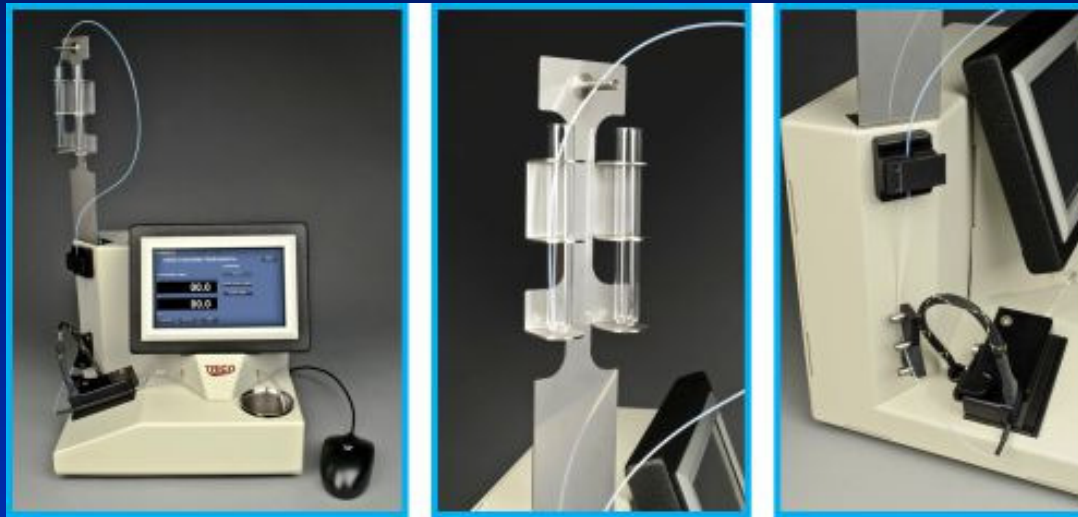
**Unit-less numbers range from 0.1 to 180.0**

**Indicative of ferromagnetic particles & some non-magnetic particles**

**Can “see” large particulates (> 300 microns)**

# Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components

## Trico's DR7 Direct Read Ferrography Instrument



Sample flows through a glass tube sitting on an inclined magnet with two light paths – DRL and DRS.

The attenuation of light in each light path during the run produces a unitless result ranging from 0.00 to 180.00

Ferro-magnetic particles as well as heavier non magnetic particle contribute to the light attenuation.

# Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components

## PQ Index



### Analex's PQL Ferrous Debris Monitor

A magnetometer that measures the mass of ferro-magnetic debris in a sample and displays this as a PQ (Particle Quantifier) index.

The PQ Index is a quantitative unitless number ranging from 0 to 5000

Independent of particle size

# Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components

## Particle Count Analysis



**Determines Cleanliness of Lubricant and Other Fluids  
by measuring scattered laser light.**

**Reported at 4, 6, 14 micron thresholds (ISO 4406.1999)**

# ISO Code

Expressed as  
**x/x/x**

**Ex: 16/14/11**

**16 -- >4  $\mu$**

**14 -- > 6  $\mu$**

**11 -- >14  $\mu$**

Number of Particles Per Milliliter

ISO 4406 Range Number	Greater Than	Less Than
24	80,000	160,000
23	40,000	80,000
22	20,000	40,000
21	10,000	20,000
20	5,000	10,000
19	2,500	5,000
18	1,300	2,500
17	640	1,300
16	320	640
15	160	320
14	80	160
13	40	80
12	20	40
11	10	20
10	5	10
9	2.5	5
8	1.3	2.5
7	0.64	1.3
6	0.32	0.64
5	0.16	0.32
4	0.08	0.16
3	0.04	0.08
2	0.02	0.04
1	0.01	0.02

# Condition of Lubricated Equipment Components

## Particle Count Analysis

Sample Information		Physical and Other Tests											
Sample No	Samp Date	V@40c	AN	Flash	ISO Code	KF	Color	4u	6u	14u	21u	38u	68u
5033005	2005-03-01	28.5	0.09	295	20/17/13	62	3.5	8716.5	1108.8	72.6	14.3	3.5	2.2
5023005	2005-02-01	29.1	0.07	350	17/14/12	42	2	1023.9	159	38.4	8.9	2.3	0.6
5013005	2005-01-01	31.9	0.06	370	16/14/12	48	2	544.4	110.7	30.6	6.6	1.9	0
4123005	2004-12-01	31.7	0.04	385	15/14/12	56	2	303.7	85.6	32.1	2.6	0.5	0
4113005	2004-11-01	32.2	0.04	385	16/13/12	66	2	488.5	74.3	36.8	3.6	0.4	0
4103005	2004-10-01	32.1	0.05	380	16/13/11	51	2	467.2	59.4	18.2	6.4	1.6	0
Watch Advisory		28.8-35.2	0.15	360	20/18/16	100	2						
Warning Advisory		27.2-36.8	0.2	340	21/19/17	200	4						
Reference		31.5	0.05	395	13/11/07	43	0	41.6	13.5	1.3	0.5	0	0

ISO 4406 Code plus actual Particles per CC of oil reported.

# The Need for Microscopic Particle Examination

From Standard Lube Oil Analysis results:

We know there are  
metals present

Wear Metals								
Iron	Copper	Tin	Lead	Chrom	Nickel	Alumi	Titan	Silver
38	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

We know there are  
particles present

4u	6u	14u	21u	38u	68u
8716.5	1108.8	72.6	14.3	3.5	2.2
1023.9	159	36.4	8.9	2.3	0.6
544.4	110.7	30.6	6.6	1.9	0
303.7	85.6	32.1	2.6	0.5	0
488.5	74.3	36.8	3.6	0.4	0
467.2	59.4	18.2	6.4	1.6	0

..but were not sure what component they came  
from or what's causing them to be generated...

# **Microscopic Particle Analysis**

**Microscopic Particle Analysis is usually performed as a reaction to routine test results.**

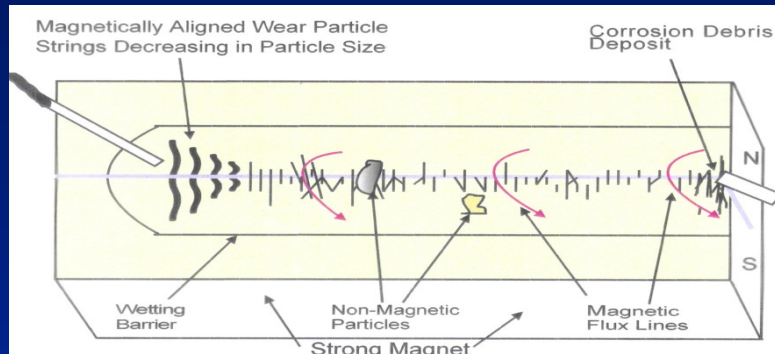
**Often performed for cause, such as increased bearing temperature, increase in filter DP, etc..**

**Best way to identify particulates reported by the ISO 4406 particle count, PQ Index, or Direct Read Ferrography**

**Best way to evaluate wear severity and wear mode**



# Microscopic Particle Analysis

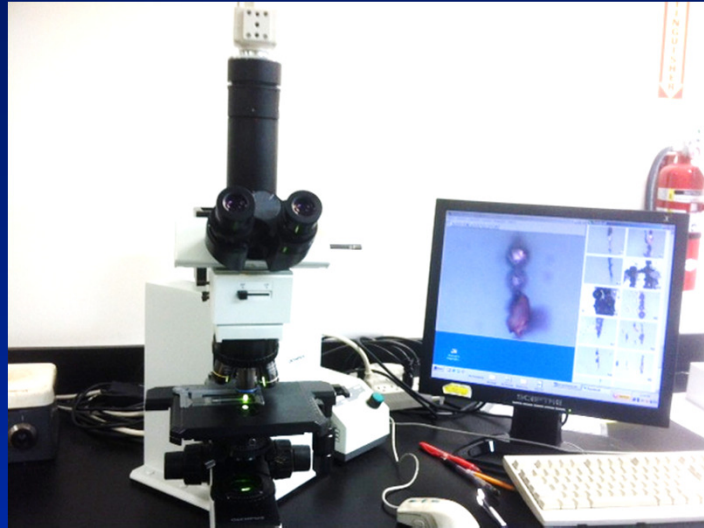


**Ferrogram is made on Slide Maker**



**Slide is washed with heptane that has been triple filtered through a .45 micron filter. This removes oil residue.**

# Microscopic Particle Analysis



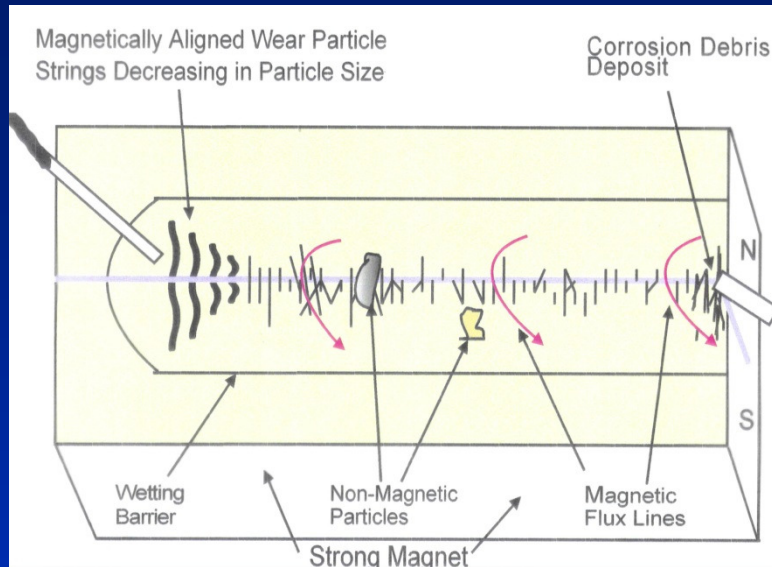
**Slide is visually examined using a bi-chromatic optical microscope.**

**Lenses provide 100X, 500X, and 1000X views.**

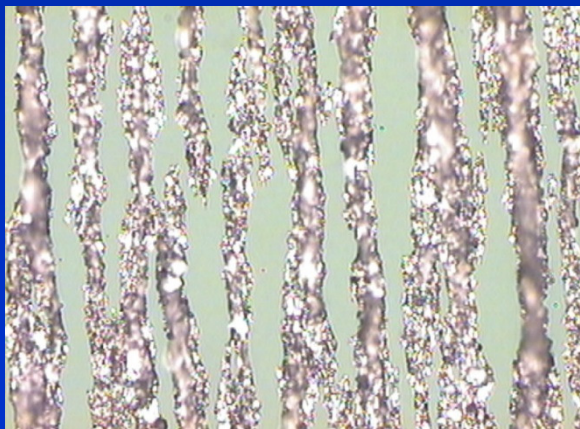
**Color filters and polarizers help the analyst identify particles.**

**Heating the slide to transition temperatures will aid the analyst in identifying particles and determining broad metallurgy categories.**

# Microscopic Particle Analysis



**Analyst looks at magnetic alignment of particles to determine which are ferromagnetic and which are other material.**

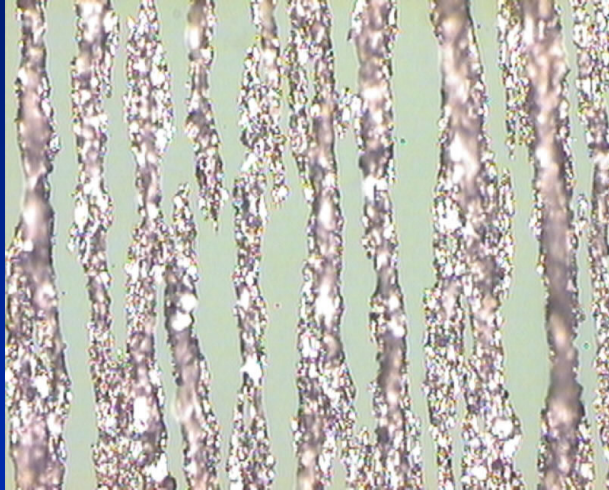


**Metallic particles in magnetically aligned strings, indicating iron or steel.**

# PARTICLE TYPES

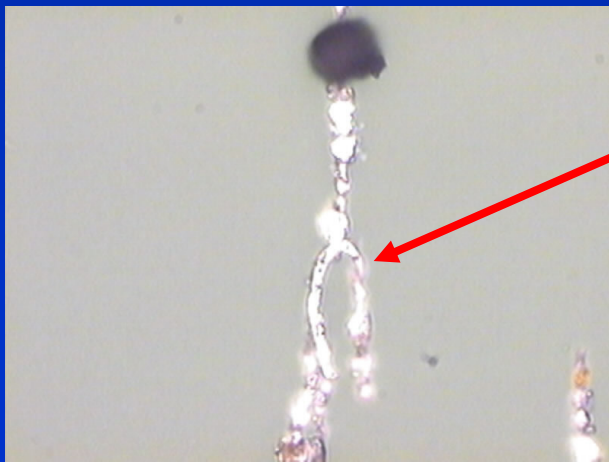
- Normal Rubbing Wear
- Severe Sliding Wear
- Cutting Wear
- Bearing & Gear Wear
- Spheres from Rolling Element Fatigue
- Black Oxides from Lubricant Starvation
- Babbitt Particles
- Corrosive Debris
- Lube Degradation
- Varnish & Lacquer Particles
- Sand & Dirt
- Fibers
- Contaminant Spheres
- Red Oxides from Water
- Red Oxides from Fretting Corrosion.

# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION



## NORMAL RUBBING WEAR

Individual particles are generally 5 microns and below. The quantity of these particles determines the wear rate.



## SMALL CUTTING WEAR

Small cutting wear particles such as this are usually caused by abrasion wear due to contaminants or other wear particles in the lubricant



# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION



## LARGE CUTTING WEAR

Large, curled cutting wear particles such as this are usually generated as a result of misalignment or abrasive particle embedded in a Babbitt bearing.



## LARGE LAMINAR PARTICLES

Large, rounded, flat particles with a width/thickness ratio of 20-1 are generated as a result of rolling element fatigue. Macro-spalling is indicated if the particles are in the 40 micron size range.

# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION



## FATIGUE CRACK SPHERES

Fatigue cracks can generate small 1-10 micron spherical particles, sometimes copious amounts.



## GEAR ROOT OR TIP WEAR

### Severe Sliding Wear

Gear root or tip wear generates long, flat particles, often with striation marks as a result of the sliding that occurred during generation.

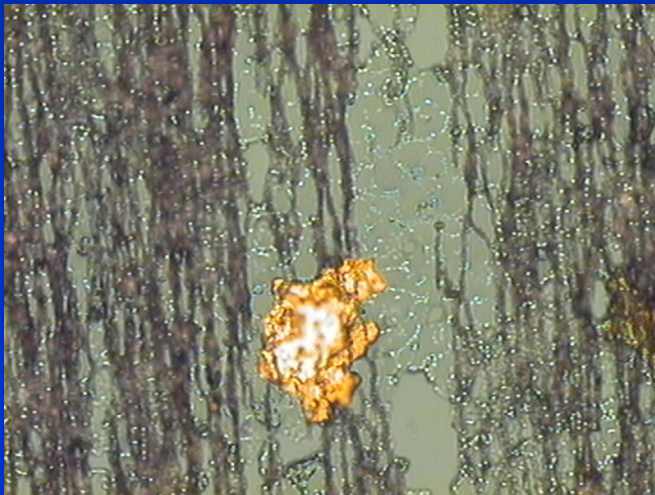
# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION



## BABBITT PARTICLES

Babbitt particles can be identified by their stippled, multicolored surfaces.

Their edges will often melt slightly when heated to 625° F

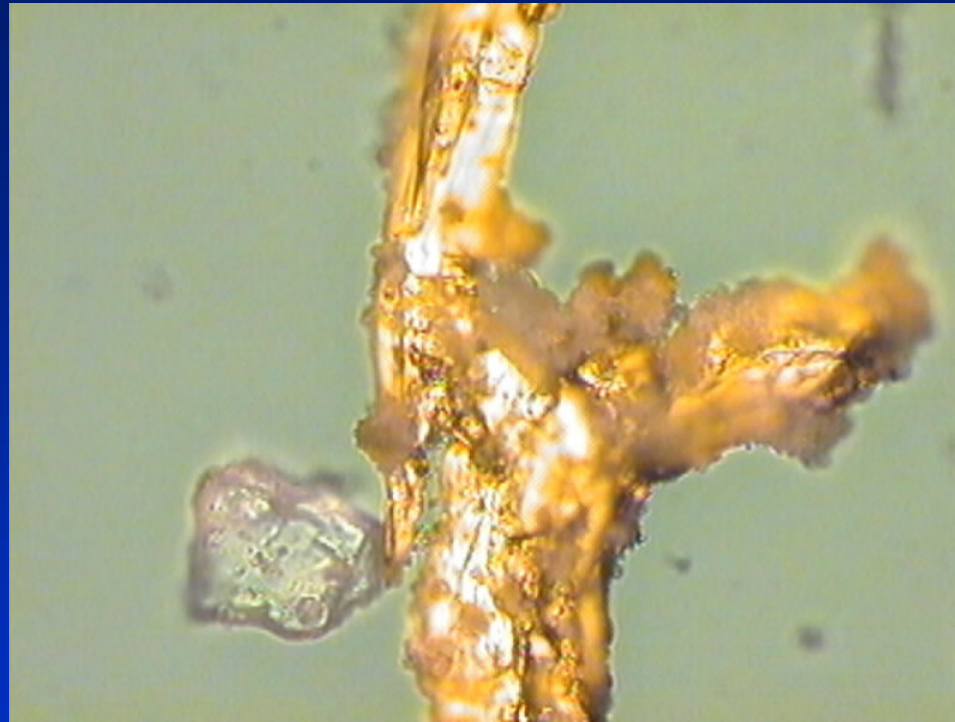


## COPPER ALLOYS

Unheated, yellow metals are easily identified by their color. These are usually generated at roller bearing cages as a result of a lubrication problem.

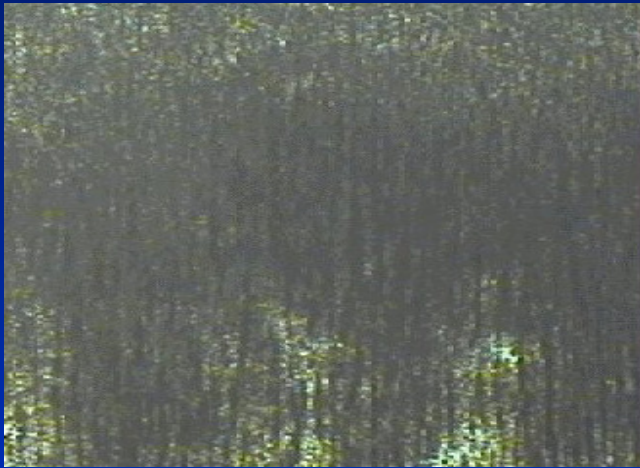


# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION

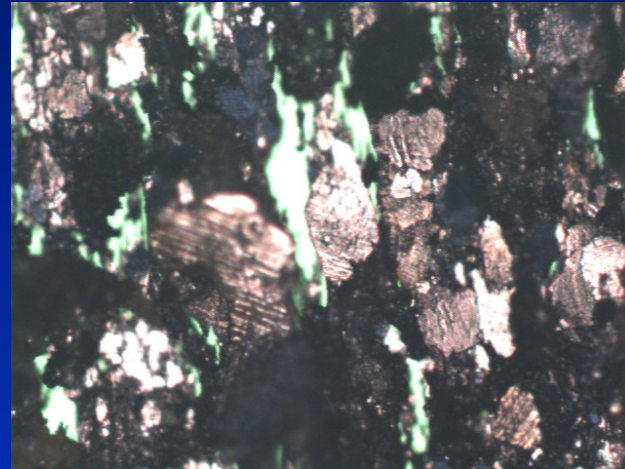


**The tortuous shape of the particle will help determine the severity of wear.**

# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION

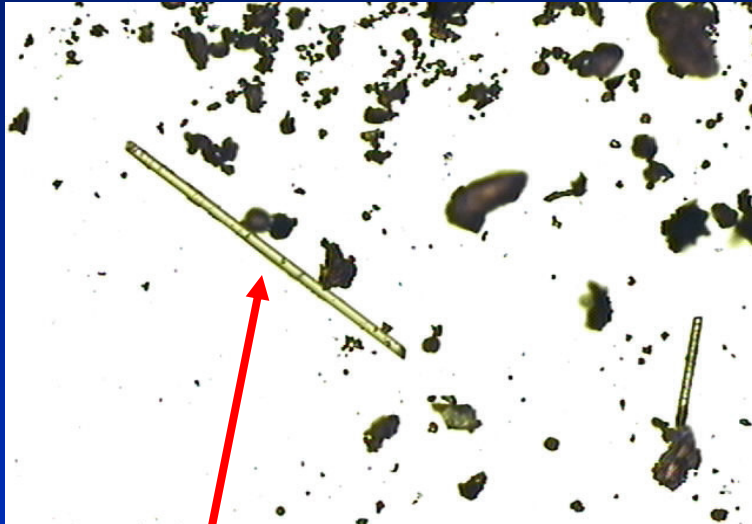


**Corrosive Wear**  
Aged or Oxidized  
Lubricant

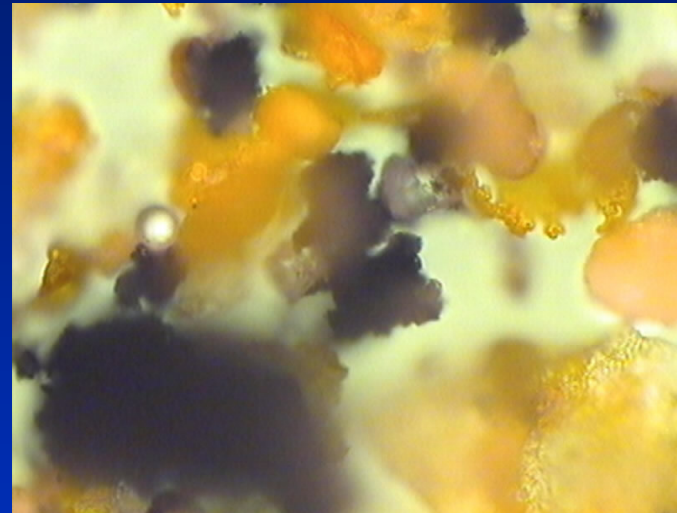


**Black Oxides & Gear Wear**  
Lubricant Starvation

# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION



**Fiber Glass From  
Degraded Filter**

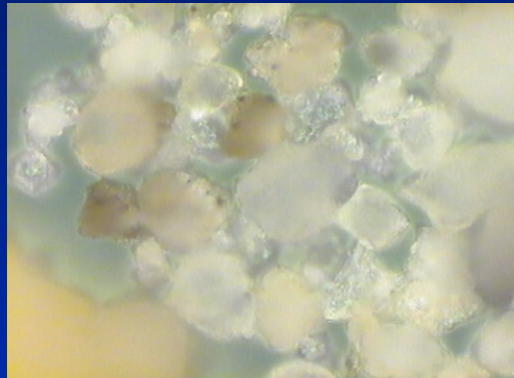


**Large Red Iron Oxides  
from water contamination**

# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION

## Contamination

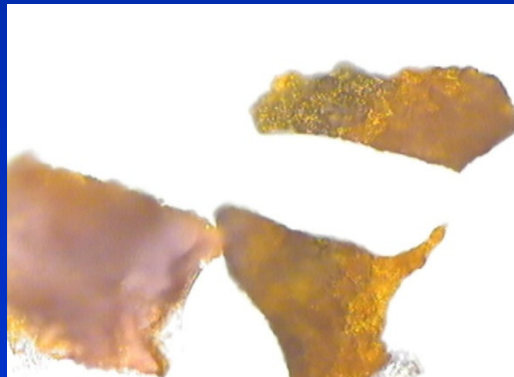
**Airborne or  
Waterborne  
contaminants**



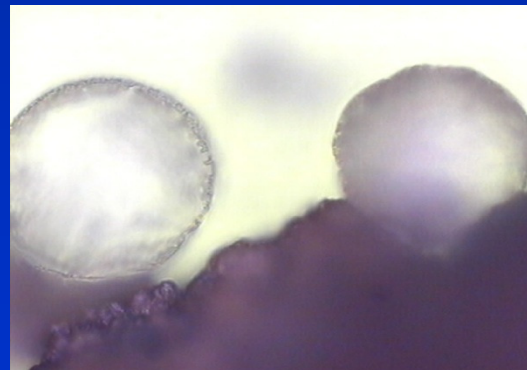
**Filter  
Degradation**



**Varnish and  
Lacquer  
Particles**

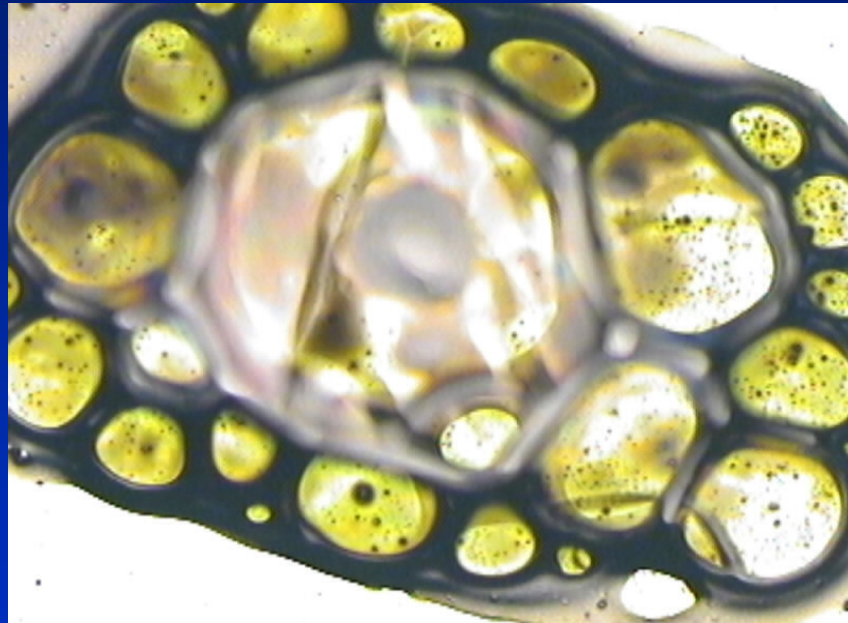


**Product  
Contamination**



# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION

## Contamination



**We haven't a clue**



# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION

**Individual Particles can be examined usually at:**

## **100X Magnification**



**At 100X, it can be determined this 500 micron particle is significant**

## **500X Magnification**



**At 500X, details of the particle and its morphology become more evident.**

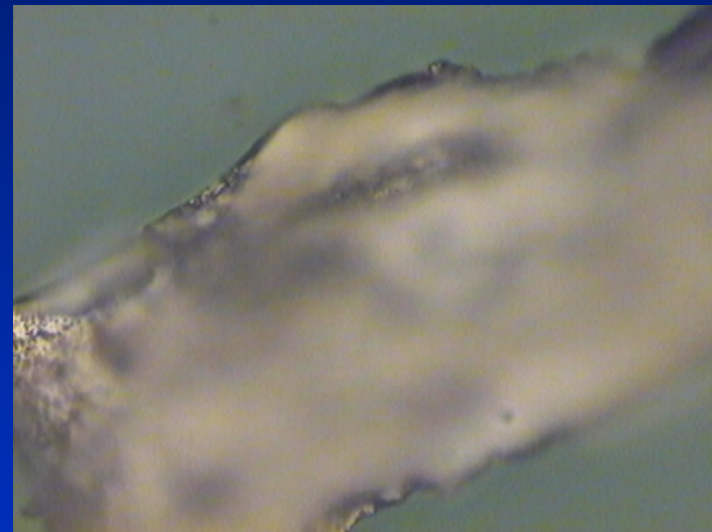
# PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION

## 1000X Magnification



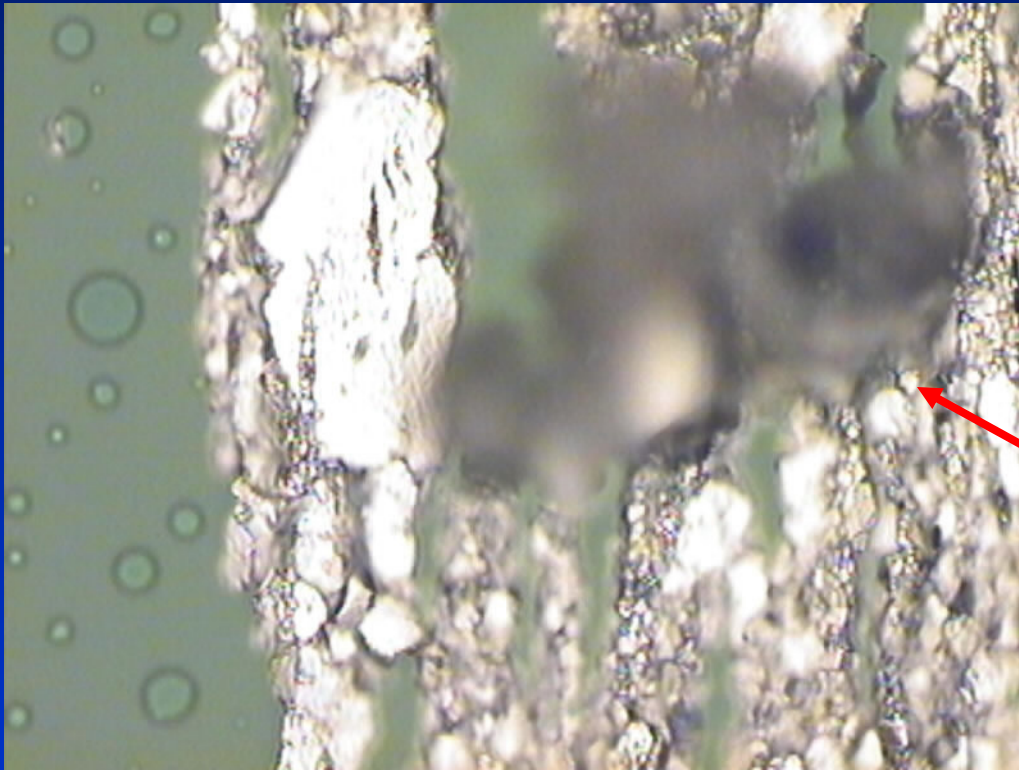
**At 1000X, minute details of the particle can be observed.**

## 1000X Magnification



**A measuring device on the microscope allows us to focus on the top and bottom of the particle and determine the 'thickness' in microns**

# Microscopic Particle Analysis



**At 1000X, particles as small as 1-2 microns can be observed and most often identified**

**2 micron ferrous wear particle.**



# Temper Colors

# **Temper Colors**

## **Determination of Metallurgy**

### **TRANSITION TEMPERATURES**

**500F – Organic material will char, shrink and/or shrivel.**

**625F – Carbon Steel will turn blue**

**High Alloy steel will remain white**

**Cast iron and medium alloy steel will turn straw colored**

**Babbitt surface will oxidize and obtain a stippled, multi-colored appearance. Edges may melt slightly.**

**Aluminum and Chromium will remain white**

**Copper/brass/bronze will turn dark bronze with streaks of blue, red, and purple, depending on the alloy**

# **Temper Colors**

## **Determination of Metallurgy**

### **TRANSITION TEMPERATURES – 750 Deg F.**

<b>Carbon steel</b>	<b>————→</b>	<b>Light gray – light straw</b>
<b>Cast iron and medium alloy steel</b>	<b>————→</b>	<b>Deep bronze</b>
<b>High alloy and Stainless Steel</b>	<b>————→</b>	<b>No change or slight yellowing</b>
<b>Aluminum &amp; Chromium</b>	<b>————→</b>	<b>No change</b>
<b>Babbitt</b>	<b>————→</b>	<b>Further stippled surface and some edge melting</b>
<b>Copper Alloys</b>	<b>————→</b>	<b>Deep straw with red, purple, and blue coloring depending on the alloy</b>
<b>Organics</b>	<b>————→</b>	<b>Further charring, shrinking, or vaporization</b>

# Temper Colors

## Determination of Metallurgy

### TRANSITION TEMPERATURES - 900 Deg F.

Carbon steel	————→	Dark gray – dark straw
Cast iron and medium alloy steel	————→	Deep bronze with mottled bluing
High nickel alloy steel	————→	Bronze with significant bluing
Stainless Steel stainless	————→	Light straw to bronze, some may have slight bluing
Aluminum & Chromium	————→	No change
Babbitt	————→	Surface completely oxidized dark. Edges melted.
Copper Alloys	————→	Dark straw, may still have slight amount of reds, purples, and blue, depending on the alloy
Organics	————→	Further charring, shrinking, or vaporization.

# Temper Colors

## Determination of Metallurgy

### TRANSITION TEMPERATURES - 1000+ Deg F.

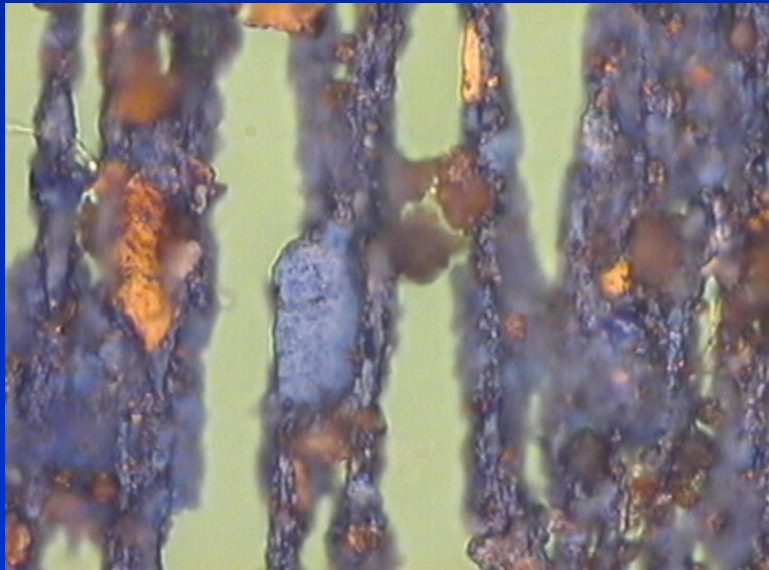
Carbon steel	————→	Dark gray
Cast iron and medium alloy steel	————→	Deep bronze with heavy bluing
High nickel alloy steel	————→	Blue or blue/gray
Stainless Steel	————→	Darker bronze with heavier mottled bluing
Aluminum & Chromium	————→	No change
Babbitt	————→	Surface completely oxidized dark. Edges definitely melted.
Copper Alloys	————→	Dark straw, little reds, purples, and blue, depending on the alloy
Organics	————→	Mostly melted into blobs or heavily deformed, or completely vaporized

# Temper Colors

## Example: Determination of Metallurgy

**Heated to 625F.**

**Those carbon steel particles <~100u will turn bluish when heated to 625F for 90 secs.**



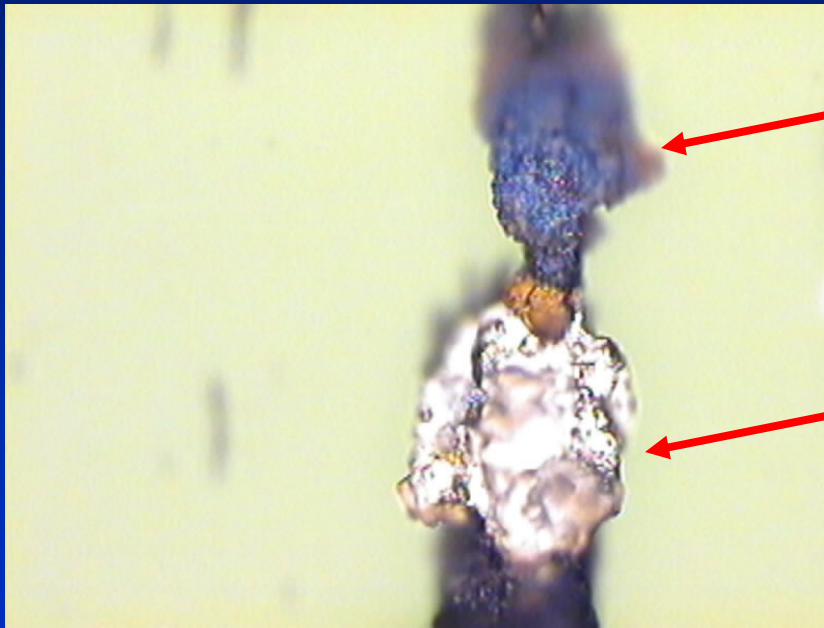
**Much larger carbon steel particles will only turn slightly blue unless heated for a longer period of time.**



# Temper Colors

## Example: Determination of Metallurgy

After heating slide to 625F



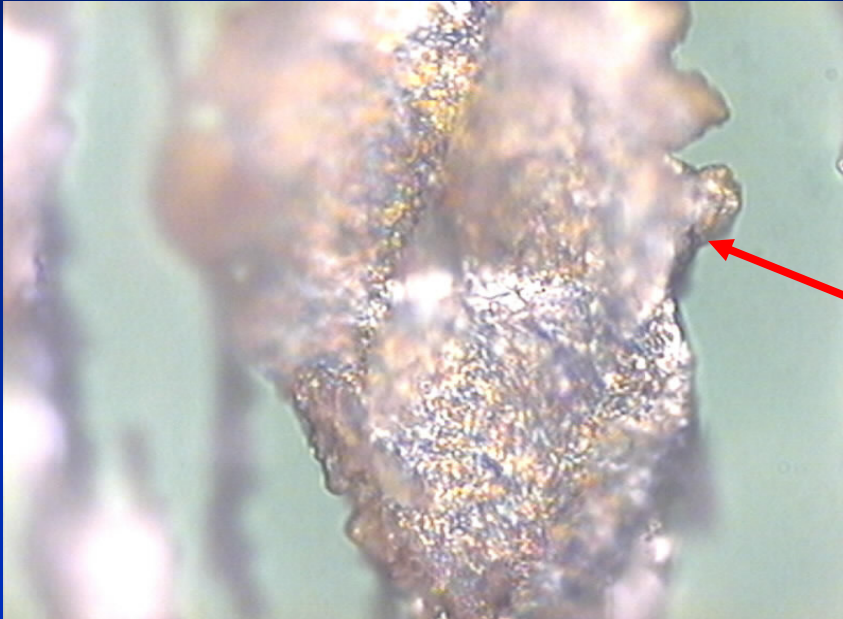
Carbon Steel

High Alloy Steel

If an excessive number of both these type of steel are present and the sample is from rolling element bearings, it probably indicates a loose fit.

# Temper Colors

## Example: Determination of Metallurgy



**Babbitt will have a stippled appearance, along with often times melted edges when heated to 625F and above.**

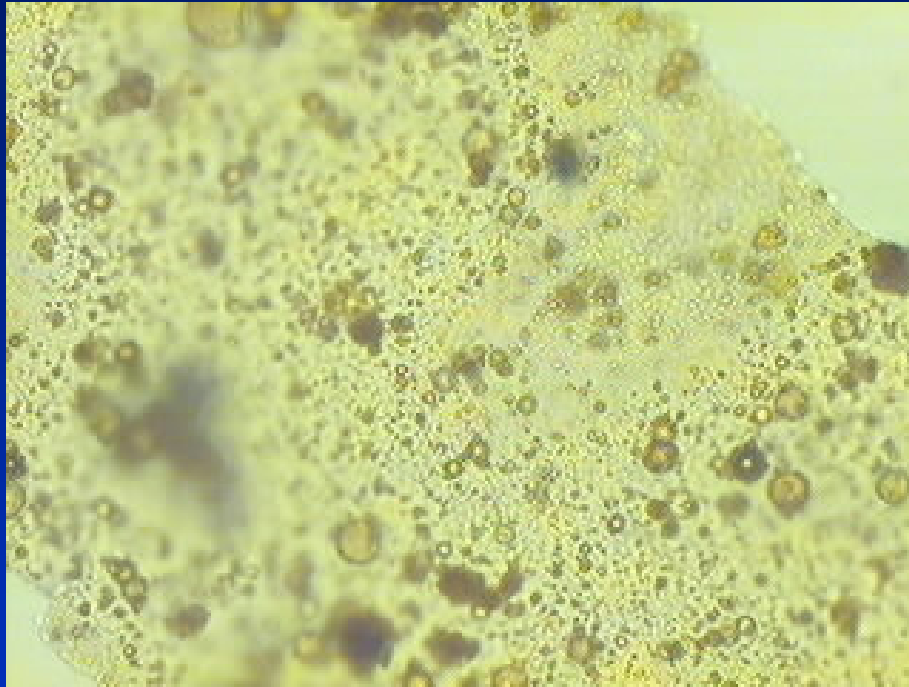


## Other Determinations as a Result of Heating the Slide



**Rust particles will turn bright reddish/orange as they are heated. Heating will have no effect on fiberglass debris from filters. This is one method of identifying fibrous material.**

## Other Visible Indications



**Friction polymers in a gear oil, indicating moderate to heavy lubricant stresses.**

## Other Visible Indications



## O-ring or Gasket Material

## Other Visible Indications



**500X – heavy spalling from roller bearing element.**

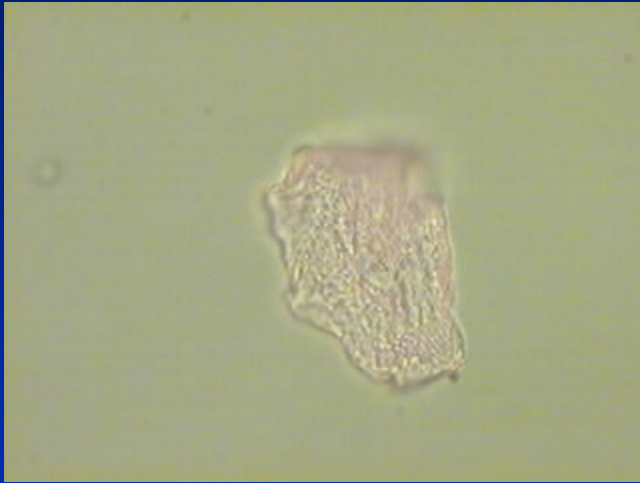
**When heated to 625f for 120 seconds, these turned blue, indicating carbon steel.**

## Other Visible Indications

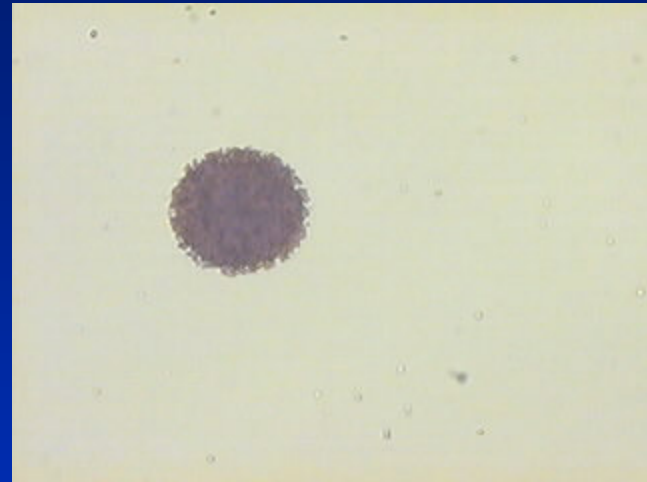


**100X – Wear from a slinger ring.**

## Other Visible Indications



**Plastic Dust from  
filter or product.**



**After heating to 625 F,  
particle melts.**

# **Other Identifiable Particulates**

**Catalyst Fines**

**Sandblasting Sand**

**Molybdenum Disulfide Additives**

**Graphite Additives**

**Teflon Tape particles**

**Wax Globules**

**Bio- Mass**

**Insect Parts**



# **Microscopic Particle Analysis**

## **Additional Points !!**


**Often what is NOT observed is as important as what is observed**

**When used in conjunction with routine Lube Oil Analysis, Analytical Ferrography will enhance the effectiveness of your Analysis Program**

**The more experienced the ferrographer, the better the results, and the more familiar the ferrographer is with the equipment in question, the better the results.**

**Share information with your lab. When a piece of equipment is opened for inspection, let your lab know what you found compared to the analysis report.**

# Examples Of Ferrography Detecting a Problem



305 Nebraska  
South Houston, TX 77581  
713-944-8381

**Sample Information** 0091

Site: Port Arthur, TX  
Area: 5  
Unit: Coker  
Equipment: Jet Pump  
Description: 30P 308 30TK 305 Jet Pump  
Sample Pt Key:    
Fluid In Use:   
Fluid Grade: ISO VG 32  
Lst Fluid Change:

**Equipment Information**

Equipment Type: Other  
Cooled: Cooling Source  
Filtered: Filter Size  
Lst Filter Change:   
Sump Capacity:   
Lubrication System:   
Lubed Components:   
Bearing Types:   
Gear Types:

**Sample Evaluation**

Wear
Physical
Contaminant
Lab

Sample Information			Wear Metals								Additive Metals						Contaminant Metals							
Samp No	Hrs/Miles	Samp Date	Iron	Copper	Tin	Lead	Chrom	Nickel	Alum	Titan	Silver	Calcium	Magnesium	Zinc	Phosphorus	Barium	Molybdenum	Antimony	Silicon	Sodium	Boron	Potassium	Vanadium	
12111155		11/19/2012	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	6	29	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12082575		08/31/2012	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	5	59	50	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
12041776		04/24/2012	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	5	20	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Watch Advisory			10	10	10	10	5	5	10	5	5							10	40	10	15	10		
Warning Advisory			20	20	20	20	10	10	20	10	10							20	40	20	30	20		
Reference																								


Sample Information		Physical and Other Tests			
Samp No	Samp Date	V40C	TAN	FLASH	KF
12111155	11/19/2012	35.5	0.09	405	53
12082575	08/31/2012	34.4	0.16	400	148
12041776	04/24/2012	36.7	0.10	420	47
Watch		28.8 - 35.2	0.15	360	100
Warning		27.2 - 36.8	0.2	340	200
Ref					


Sample Information		Other Tests	Samp No	Comments / Recommendations
Samp No	Samp Date			
12111155	11/19/2012		12111155	No particle count due to particles. Recondition oil. Viscosity due to slight contamination.
12082575	08/31/2012			
12041776	04/24/2012		12082575	No particle count due to fibers in oil sample. TAN due to some contamination. Resample at normal interval.
Watch				
Warning				
Ref				

Nothing alarming in standard report, but.....

# Examples Of Ferrography Detecting a Problem



305 Nebraska  
South Houston, TX 77587  
713-944-8381



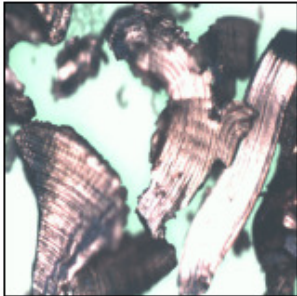
Sample Point Information 0091

Site	Port Arthur, TX
Area	5
Unit	Coker
Equipment	Jet Pump
Description	30P 308 30TK 305 Jet Pump
Sample Pt Key	

-- Page 2 -- IMAGE REPORT

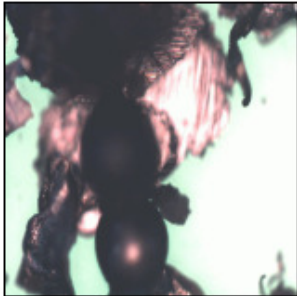
Sample Information

Sample Number	12111155
Sample Date	11/19/2012
Report Date	11/20/2012



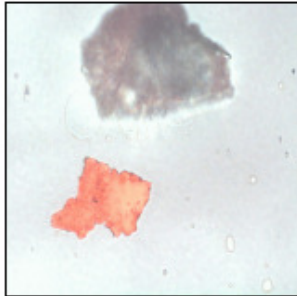
12111155a.jpg 100 X

These 200 to 500 micron ferrous cutting wear particles are typical of the others on the slide. These are abrasive wear. Check unit for noise or vibration. Recondition oil.



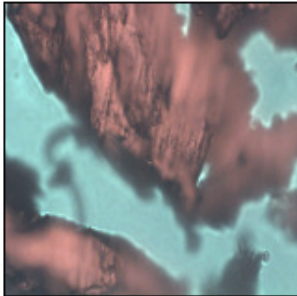
12111155b.jpg 100 X

These two 160 micron metal spheres are the largest of the few seen. These are from bearing fatigue cracks.



12111155c.jpg 500 X

This 40 micron copper particle is one of 2 seen. The other particle is filter material.



12111155d.jpg 500 X

This is after heating the slide to 625F. Most of the ferrous particles turned bronze. They are medium alloy steel. A few turned blue, carbon steel. Most of these appear to be from the bearing.

Several large ferrous cutting wear particles (abrasive wear) were seen. Most of these appear to be from the bearing. Check for noise or vibration. Recondition oil. A few large metal spheres that appear to be from bearing fatigue cracks were also seen.


## Severe wear was detected with ferrography

Equipment Information  
Equipment Type Gear Box  
Cooled Cooling Source  
Filtered Filter Size  
LstFilter Change  
Sump Capacity  
Lubrication System  
Lubed Components  
Bearing Types  
Gear Types

Sample Evaluation										Fluid in Use		Lubed Components												
Wear		Physical		Contaminant		Lab		Fluid Grade		Bearing Types														
								ISO VG 320		Gear Types														
								Lst Fluid Change																
Sample Information			Wear Metals									Additive Metals					Contaminant Metals							
Samp No	Hrs/Miles	Samp Date	Iron	Copper	Tin	Lead	Chrom	Nickel	Alum	Titan	Silver	Calcium	Magnesium	Zinc	Phosphorus	Barium	Molybdenum	Antimony	Silicon	Sodium	Boron	Potassium	Vanadium	
13012453		01/29/2013	13	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	99	0	1	0	6	1	5	0	0	0
13010631		01/07/2013	20	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	5	77	0	0	0	9	0	6	0	0	0
12120229		12/04/2012	16	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	72	0	0	0	9	0	6	0	0	0
12110488		11/05/2012	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	81	0	0	0	8	0	5	0	0	0
12100534		10/03/2012	12	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	68	0	0	0	11	0	4	0	0	0
12090386		09/04/2012	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	124	11	0	0	10	0	4	0	0	0
Watch Advisory			11	10	10	10	5	5	10	5	5								15	40	50	15	10	10
Warning Advisory			20	20	20	20	10	10	20	5	10								30	40	75	25	20	20
Reference																								
Sample Information			Physical and Other Tests																					
Samp No	Samp Date	V40C	TAN	FLASH	FDRS	FDRL	KF																	
13012453	01/29/2013	325.6	0.41	430	18.5	73.4	78																	
13010631	01/07/2013	319.5	0.43	445	20.0	71.1	74																	
12120229	12/04/2012	321.0	0.44	440	16.9	61.5	72																	
12110488	11/05/2012	325.1	0.45	435	10.2	41.4	85																	
12100534	10/03/2012	324.6	0.44	410	12.0	41.9	88																	
12090386	09/04/2012	328.9	0.40	430	20.3	54.5	125																	
Watch		288.0-352.0	1.0	360	25	50	150																	
Warning		272.0-368.0	1.5	340	50	75	250																	
Ref																								
Sample Information			Other Tests					Samp No	Comments / Recommendations															
Samp No	Samp Date																							
13012453	01/29/2013							13012453	Metal particles were noted. See images for particle analysis. Recondition oil. FDRL reading indicates some wear or contaminants.															
13010631	01/07/2013																							
12120229	12/04/2012																							
12110488	11/05/2012																							
12100534	10/03/2012							13010631	Iron from bearing or gears. Slight wear may be indicated. FDRL reading indicates some wear or contaminants. Resample at normal interval.															
12090386	09/04/2012																							
Watch																								
Warning																								
Ref																								

## Steady iron increase, then drop while FDRL increases

# Examples Of Ferrography Detecting a Problem



305 Nebraska  
South Houston, TX 77587  
713-944-8381

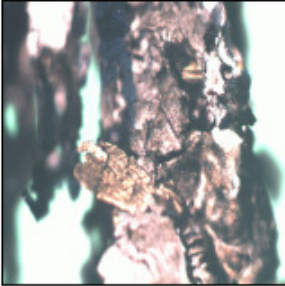
Sample Point Information 0053

Unit Extruders  
Equipment SP #53 EXT 4 Timing GB  
Description  
Sample Pt Key

-- Page 2 -- IMAGE REPORT

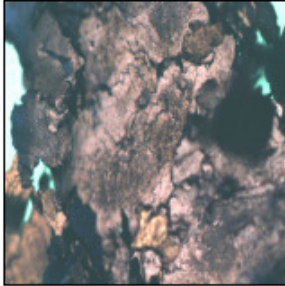
Sample Information

Sample Number 13012453  
Sample Date 01/28/2013  
Report Date 02/01/2013



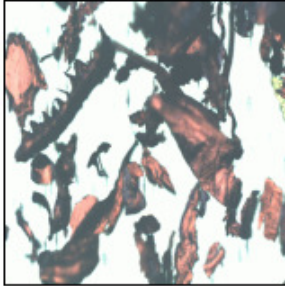
13012453a.jpg 100 X

Many large 100 to 900 micron ferrous wear particles and copper particles were seen. Check bearing for severe wear/damage. A few of these appear to be from the gears.



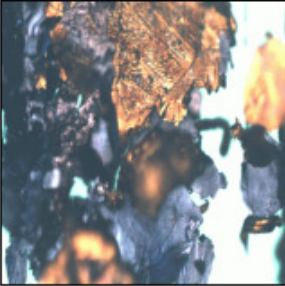
13012453b.jpg 100 X

These large ferrous particles are 500 to 900 microns. They appear to be from a bearing. A few copper particle can be seen.



13012453c.jpg 100 X

These particles are almost all copper particles. Some are copper cutting wear particles. Inspect bearing cage for severe damage.



13012453d.jp 100 X


This is after heating the slide to 625F. Most of the ferrous particles turned blue, carbon steel. Copper particles are seen.

Large numbers of copper particles 50 to 500 micron were seen over the slide. Check bearing cage for severe wear. Many large ferrous wear particles were also seen. Check for increased noise or vibration or inspect bearing and if possible the gears. Severe wear is indicated.

**This is what an extruder gearbox looks like to us when it is starting to fall apart!**



# Examples Of Ferrography Detecting a Problem



305 Nebraska  
South Houston, TX 77587  
713-944-8381

Sample Information

0014

Site

Baytown, TX

Area

400

Unit

A7409

Equipment

Gearbox

Description

A7409 Lightnin Double Reductio

Sample Pt Key

A7409

Fluid in Use

Mobilgear 630

Fluid Grade

ISO VG 220

Lst Fluid Change

Equipment Information

Equipment Type

Gear Box

Cooled

Cooling Source

Filtered

Filter Size

Lst Filter Change

Sump Capacity

Lubrication System

Lubed Components

Bearing Types

Gear Types

Sample Evaluation

Wear

Physical

Contaminant

Lab

Sample Information			Wear Metals										Additive Metals								Contaminant Metals				
Samp No	Hrs/Miles	Samp Date	Iron	Coppe	Tin	Lead	Chrom	Nickel	Alum	Titan	Silver	Calciu	Magne	Zinc	Phos	Bariu	Molyb	Antim	Silico	Sodiu	Boron	Potas	Vanad		
12102119		10/26/2012	105	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	10	1	22	178	2	0	0	2	0	15	0	0		
12072572		07/27/2012	70	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	1	15	195	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0		
12051536		05/21/2012	56	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	1	8	178	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0		
12042056		04/26/2012	107	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	12	1	23	192	0	0	0	1	1	9	0	0		
11110811		10/25/2011	92	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	10	1	34	169	0	0	0	2	1	10	0	0		
11081098		08/11/2011	48	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	1	28	195	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0		
Watch Advisory			15	20	15	10	5	5	10	5	5									15	100	10	15	10	
Warning Advisory			30	30	20	20	10	10	20	10	10									30	150	20	30	20	
Reference																									

Sample Information		Physical and Other Tests					
Samp No	Samp Date	V40C	TAN	FDRS	FDRL	KF	WATER
12102119	10/26/2012	242.1	0.73	119.8	147.6	115	
12072572	07/27/2012	232.4	0.67	83.1	84.6	130	
12051536	05/21/2012	216.4	0.64	102.1	132.9	162	
12042056	04/26/2012	222.4	0.66	150.0	177.1	106	
11110811	10/25/2011	216.5	0.64	148.9	162.2	67	
11081098	08/11/2011	217.6	0.61	92.7	149.6	155	
Watch		198.0-253.0	1.0	30	50	100	0.01
Warning		176.0-275.0	1.5	50	75	200	0.02
Ref							

Sample Information		Other Tests	Samp No	Comments / Recommendations
Samp No	Samp Date			
12102119				Particles noted. Iron from bearing, gears or corrosion. See images. FDR readings

Just changing the oil doesn't always solve a wear problem.

# Examples Of Ferrography Detecting a Problem



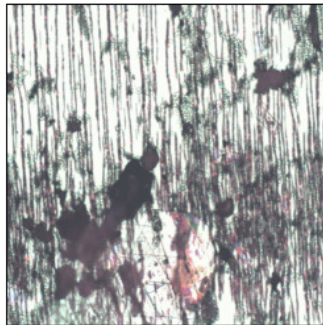
305 Nebraska  
South Houston, TX 77587  
713-944-8381



Sample Point Information 0014  
Site Baytown, TX  
Area 400  
Unit A7409  
Equipment Gearbox  
Description A7409 Lightnin Double Reductio  
Sample Pt Key A7409

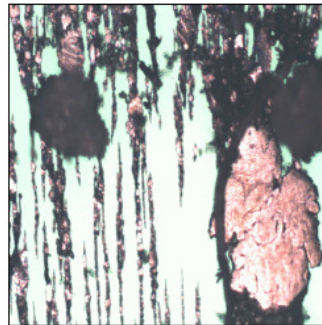
## -- Page 2 -- IMAGE REPORT

Sample Information  
Sample Number 12102119  
Sample Date 10/26/2012  
Report Date 10/31/2012



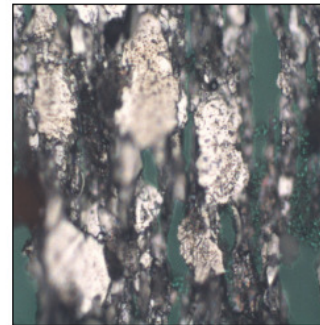
12102119a.jpg 100 X

Many fibers were seen. Some type of clear non-metallic material was also seen (clear particle at bottom). This particle melted when heated. It could be product. Many ferrous corrosion particles were seen.



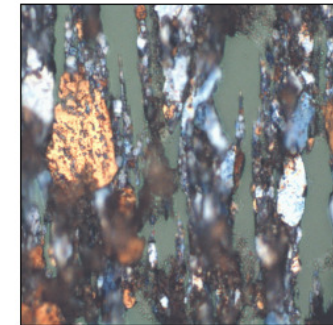
12102119b.jpg 100 X

This 300 micron ferrous wear particle appears to be from a bearing. It was the largest seen. Most of the many wear particles were 30 microns or less. Many were 30 to 80 microns. Check for noise or vibration. Some severe wear may be indicated.



12102119c.jpg 500 X

These are typical of the ferrous wear particles. Most appear to be gear wear. A few ferrous cutting wear particles are also seen. Recondition oil.



12102119d.jpg 500 X

This is after heating the slide to 625F. Many of the ferrous particles turned blue. They are carbon steel. The bronze color particles are medium alloy steel.

**If the wear mode is other than contaminated lubricant the wear process will continue even after changing the oil**



***QUESTIONS ?***

***Thank You !!***